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MAHATHIR-INVESTORS
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PARIT BUNTAR, JULY 13 (BERNAMA) -- INVESTORS SHOULD VENTURE INTO NEW FIELDS TO SEEK SUCCESS AND SPEED UP THE PACE OF THE NATION'S ECONOMIC GROWTH, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THAT THE CURRENT PRACTICE OF CONCENTRATING IN CERTAIN FIELDS ONLY SHOULD BE DISCARDED.

+THERE ARE STILL MANY AREAS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN EXPLOITED,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID WHEN OPENING THE ACTIVATED BLEACHING EARTH AND SULPHURIC ACID PLANTS AT THE SIMPANG LIMA INDUSTRIAL ZONE HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THERE WERE CERTAIN FIELDS WHICH WERE +OVER-CONCENTRATED+ BY BUSINESSMEN SO MUCH SO THAT THEY HAD ALREADY BEEN SATURATED AND GROWTH WAS NEGLIGIBLE.

THIS, HE SAID, INCLUDED AREAS RELATED TO PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE COMPANIES, INSTANT FOOD INDUSTRIES AND THE RECONDITIONED CAR BUSINESS. -- MORE

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HE SAID THAT THIS WAS THE PROBLEM WITH MALAYSIAN BUSINESSMEN:
+WHEN SOMEONE STARTS A VENTURE, OTHERS WILL FOLLOW AND GO INTO
SIMILAR VENTURES.+

HE SAID THAT, FOR INSTANCE, MANY PEOPLE WANTED TO OBTAIN LICENCE
TO SET UP FINANCE COMPANIES.

WHEN THEIR BUSINESSES FAILED, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, THEY
WOULD SAY THERE WAS A SLUMP IN BUSINESS.

THEY DID NOT REALISE THAT WHILE THE NUMBER OF FINANCE COMPANIES
HAD GONE UP RAPIDLY, THERE WAS NO RELATED INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF
CUSTOMERS, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO HIT OUT AT BUSINESSMEN WHO APPLIED
FOR LICENCES BUT DID NOT MAKE USE OF THEM ON APPROVAL.

+PROBABLY, THEY WANT TO SELL THE LICENCES,+ HE SAID.

HE URGED BUSINESSMEN TO MAKE STUDIES TO EXPLOIT POTENTIAL
ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THERE WAS LITTLE COMPETITION. -- MORE
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+MALAYSIA IS RICH IN NATURAL RESOURCES WHICH CAN BE EXPLOITED.

+FOR EXAMPLE, IF WE TALK ABOUT MINING, IT DOES NOT MEAN ONLY TIN
MINING.

+THERE ARE A WHOLE LOT OF SUPPLEMENTARY INDUSTRIES FROM MINING,
LIKE THE MANUFACTURE OF BRICKS AND PROCESSING OF SAND AND PRODUCTION
OF CERAMICS,+ HE SAID.

THEREFORE, INVESTORS SHOULD BE OPEN MINDED AND VENTURE INTO NEW
FIELDS, HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA

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